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Message Text

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44
ACTION EUR-25

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INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T USNATO 0500

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, NATO
SUBJECT: MBFR: COMMENTS ON THIRD REVISED SPC DRAFT ON STABILIZING MEASURES

VIENNA FOR USDEL MBFR

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

REF: USNATO 492

SUMMARY: SPC DRAFTING GROUP ON JANUARY 30 PRODUCED FURTHER REVISION OF SPC DRAFT ON STABILIZING MEASURES. REMAINING ISSUES ARE NOT LIKELY TO DELAY ALLIED AGREEMENT TO TEXT AND TO FORWARDING IT TO AD HOC GROUP. UK ACCEPTED U.S. DEFINITION OF MAJOR
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MILITARY EXERCISES, BUT INSISTED ON NATIONAL FOOTNOTE STATING THAT MEASURES WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE FOR APPLICATION TO BRITISH FORCES. FRG AGREED TO U.S. PROPOSAL THAT PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT BE MADE ONLY FOR EXERCISES OUTSIDE OF DEFINED TRAINING AREAS, BUT CALLED

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FOR PROMPT NATO STUDY OF THE LOCATION AND EXTENT OF THESE AREAS. DRAFTING GROUP MADE SEVERAL EDITING CHANGES, PRINCIPALLY TO BEGIN MEASURE TWO WITH A CONSOLIDATED DEFINITION OF MAJOR MILITARY EXERCISES AND TO LIST MORE CONCISELY THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER MEASURE THREE. MISSION CONSIDERS NEW TEXT MORE CLEARLY IDENTIFIES THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER EACH MEASURE AND FULLY REFLECTS U.S. PREFERENCES. MISSION PLANS TO ACCEPT TEXT AD REFERENDUM AT FEBRUARY 1 SPC MEETING, WHICH WILL PROBABLY FORWARD PAPER FOR CONSIDERATION AT FEBRUARY 6 NAC. END SUMMARY.

1. PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS AT DRAFTING GROUP SESSION ARE DESCRIBED BELOW.

2. VERIFICATION OF STABILIZING MEASURES. (PARA 2 OF COVER NOTE, PARA 3 OF TEXT.). ALL ALLIES ACCEPT INCLUSIOHOF PARA 3 IN TEXT EXCEPT FOR U.S. REP. (COMMENT: THIS IS AN ISSUE WHICH ALLIES ARE UNLIKELY TO RESOLVE IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND WILL CONTINUE TO DISCUSS IN THE CONTEXT OF VERIFICATION. WE WILL SUGGEST AT FEBRUARY 1 SPC MEETING THAT THIS PARAGRAPH BE DROPPED FROM THE TEXT OF THE REPORT, SINCE THE COVER NOTE IDENTIFIES THIS AS AN UNRESOLVED ISSUE. IN MISSIONS'S VIEW, THIS WOULD BE SATISFACTORY WAY TO HANDLE THIS ISSUE FOR THE TIME BEING, SINCE THE FACT THAT THIS QUESTION WAS STILL UNDER DISPUTE IN THE ALLIANCE WOULD EFFECTIVELY PROHIBIT THE AD HOC GROUP FROM MAKING REFERENCE TO IT IN THEIR STATEMENTS. END COMMENT)

3. MULTILATERALIZATION OF PRE-ANNOUNCEMENTS. GROUP AGREED THAT IN ADDITION TO FLAGGING THIS ISSUE IN COVER NOTE, THE ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES SHOULD BE RETAINED IN BRACKETS THROUGHOUT THE TEXT (I.E. IN PARAS 4, 8, 11, 12, 17 AND 18). (COMMENT: BELGIUM, ITALIAN AND DUTCH REPS, WHO ARE ONLY HOLDOUTS INTIMATED THAT THEY MIGHT BE ABLE TO ACCEPT THE U.S. PREFERENCE FOR BILATERAL NOTIFICATIONS, BUT WOULD ONLY DO SO AT THE COUNCIL LEVEL. EVEN IF THE COUNCIL IS UNABLE TO AGREE ON THIS POINT, GROUP FELT THAT A GENERALIZED FORMULATION COULD BE FOUND, E.G. BY DROPPING ANY MENTION OF THE PRECISE RECIPIENTS OF PRE-ANNOUNCE-MENT, FOR PURPOSES OF FORWARDING PAPER TO AD HOC GROUP. END
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COMMENT.)

4. TERMINATION OR WITHDRAWAL FROM AGREEMENT. (PARA 3 OF COVER NOTE) UK, FRG AND OTHERS CONSIDERED THAT PARA 3 RAISED SO MANY POLITICAL AND LEGAL ISSUES THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO DROP PARAGRAPH ENTIRELY FROM PAPER. U.S. REP SAID HE COULD AGREE TO THIS, PARTICULARLY SINCE ORIGINAL U.S. CONTRIBUTION DID NOT CALL FOR EXAMINATION OF THESE ISSUES IN THIS PAPER, BUT WISHED TO HAVE THE TEXT OF THE U.S. SUGGESTIONS EMBODIED IN THE COVER NOTE. SHAPE AND MC REPS CALLED FOR RETENTION AS WELL OF FIRST TWO SENTENCES IN OLD PARA 3, ALTHOUGH UK REP AGREED TO DROP FINAL BRACKETED SENTENCE. SHAPE REP ALSO ASKED THAT FINAL SENTENCE BEGIN WITH "NATO MILITARY AUTHO-RITIES"

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IN LIEU OF "SACEUR."

5. DEFINED TRAINING AREAS. FRG REP SAID THAT HE COULD ACCEPT U.S. PROPOSAL FOR CONFINING PRE-ANNOUNCEMENTS TO THOSE EXERCISES TAKING PLACE OUTSIDE OF PERMANENT MILITARY GARRISONS OR DEFINED GROUND TRAINING AREAS, ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT

THE ALLIES WOULD UNDERTAKE A PROMPT STUDY TO DRAW UP A LIST OF THESE AREAS.

6. UK RESERVATION.(FOOTNOTE TO PARA 2). UK INSISTED ON RETAINING THIS FOOTNOTE AND PROVIDED A STATEMENT EXPLAINING REASONS FOR THIS RESERVATION. UK AND SHAPE REPS ASKED IF U.S. DID NOT HAVE SIMILAR DIFFICULTIES AS DID UK WITH A 30-DAY GAP BETWEEN EXERCISES, SINCE THE EXERCISE SEASON IN GERMANY OUTSIDE TRAINING AREAS IN SHORT. (SEE SEPTEL FOR TEXT OF BRITISH STATEMENT AND REQUEST FOR GUIDANCE ON THIS QUESTION.)

7. DEFINITION OF EXERCISES (PARA 13). UK DROPPED INSISTENCE ON "FOR FIELD TRAINING," IN VIEW OF UK FOOTNOTE TO PARA 2. UK ALSO DROPPED EARLIER RESERVATION TOWARDS PUTTING THIS DEFINITION OF EXERCISES AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MEASURE. TO COMPLETE DIFINITION, GROUP ADDED FINAL SENTENCE OF FORMER PARA 16. THIS DEFINITION THUS GOVERNS THE USE OF "EXERCISES" THROUGHOUT THE REMAINDER OF THE PAPER, WITHOUT THE NEED FOR REPEATING VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF IT.

8. MEASURE 3 LIMITATIONS (PARAS 15 AND 16). FOR GREATER
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CLARITY, GROUP LISTED REQUIREMENTS UNDER THIS MEASURE ACCORDING TO THOSE APPLYING TO MAJOR EXERCISES AS DEFINED IN PARA 13.

9. FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT OF OBSERVERS (PARA 20, FOOTNOTE 1). FRG SAID THAT BONN STILL HAD THIS QUESTION UNDER STUDY BUT WOULD NOT RPT NOT OBJECT TO APPROVING PAPER EVEN THOUGH THESE DETAILS WERE UNDER REVIEW.
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